

Message

From: Smith, Monica [smith.monica@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/27/2019 8:39:49 PM
To: Mason, Steve [mason.steve@epa.gov]; Loesel, Matthew [loesel.matthew@epa.gov]
Subject: thoughts or comments?

Incident Overview:

On March 17, 2019, eight above ground storage tanks containing petroleum products including Naphtha, Xylene, Toluene, Gasoline Blendstock, and Base Oil have caught fire at the Intercontinental Terminal Company, LLC facility in Deer Park Texas. Eleven of the 15 80,000-barrel capacity above ground storage tanks on site were involved in the fire, resulting in the release of contaminants into the atmosphere, as well discharging the contents of the tanks to drainage pathways. Firefighting water and foam potentially containing petroleum products was released from an outfall due to accumulation of water from firefighting efforts. Various firefighting organizations assisted in putting out the fire utilizing a variety of firefighting foams.

A partial breach of the tank farm containment wall on the northeast side near Tank 80-7 occurred at approximately 12:00 pm on March 22, 2019, to the ditched area and into Tucker Bayou. Additional boom has been placed along the ditch leading to Tucker Bayou, Tucker Bayou, and Buffalo Bayou. The Responsible Party's contractor has rebuilt the containment wall using clay material.

At approximately 3:40 pm on March 22, 2019, three tanks reignited. The fire spread from the containment area through the breached containment wall into the ditch on Tidal Road. Foam was applied to the tanks and the ditch to fight the fire.

During and after the fire and the breach of the secondary containment, several readings of benzene above 1.0 ppm were detected (highest was 16.5 near National Tank Services) by the various entities conducting air monitoring through the afternoon and night time. These readings were located along the ship channel, Channelview.

Due to the initial fires and subsequent releases, shelters in place have occurred throughout the week of March 17, 2019.

Monica Smith
Chief,
Planning, Prevention, Readiness & Response Section (6SF-EA)
214-665-6780 office
469-766-3398 cell
smith.monica@epa.gov